

Information obtained from HBM.

### MIDWAY POST OFFICE

The mail that came by horseback through Provo Canyon usually had been carried across the continent by wagons following trails that began where rail lines ended. The co-op stores operated by Bishop David Van Wagoner was a central meeting spot in the community, and soon became the location where people waited for the mails. So, when the post office was officially established in 1893 the Van Wagoner store was the logical post office and the proprietor of the choice for postmaster.

Bishop Van Wagoner served as postmaster until 1897 when Mary E. Watkins was appointed postmistress. Her office was located in a small frame store building operated by her husband, William Watkins. They continued their store and post office until 1918 when poor health and failing eyesight forced them to retire.

Because Midway was only a fourth class post office, wages were paid only on a percentage of cancelled stamps, and the pay was small, usually averaging 32 to \$37 a month, with a little more at Christmas time.

When the Watkins' retired there was no immediate successor who wanted to work at the wage offered, and it appeared that the post office might be closed. However a young widow, Mrs. Clara Vail Bigler, was encouraged to accept the assignment, which she did. The post office was moved to an old school building on the southeast corner of the public square which had been completely renovated for the new post office."



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### THE MIDWAY POST OFFICE

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### AUNT DELE WILSON

"Aunt Dele Wilson was perhaps the most famous midwife in Midway's early history. She perhaps delivered hundreds of babies. In one particular incident, a fifteen year old boy was visiting a family who was expecting. He was sitting in the kitchen when Aunt Dele came in with a bundle wrapped in a blanket and put it in this boy's lap, then announced to the other people in the kitchen that there was another one. In a few minutes she came with the second baby.

Aunt Dele was a very thrifty person. If there was one baby, she charged five dollars for delivering the baby and did the housework for ten days. If there were two babies, she charged ten dollars, and did the housework for ten days and took care of the mother.

Sister Wilson's real name was Cordelia. Then she was a widow with quite a large family and did this work to supplement the income from the farm that she and her boys worked."



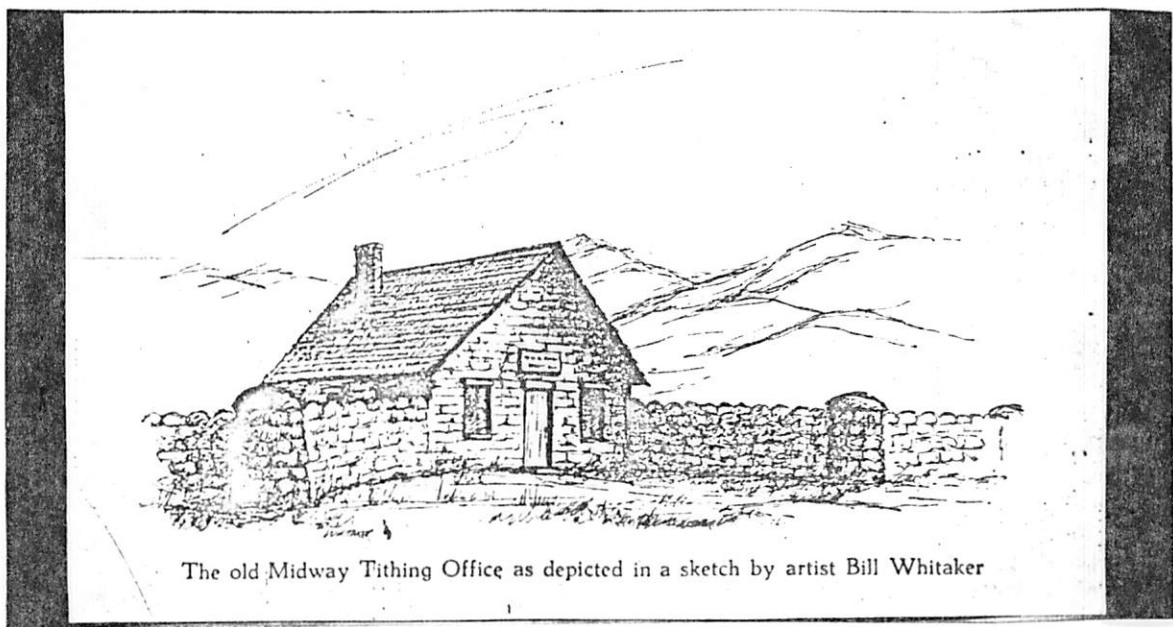


### THE TITHING OFFICE

"In 1873 the first tithing office was commenced. It was completed in 1874. Here Sunday School and other public meetings were held. Many wonderful entertainments were held there such as the Aaronic Priesthood Quorum which had an annual affair. They would meet in the tithing office and dance until about 11 pm. Then they would go across the street to the school, which was on the southeast corner of the public square. There tables were set with the good things of this world.

In the year 1878 they had outgrown the tithing office and a school and a new meeting house was necessary.

About the time of 1886 a new tithing office was built. It was also built of native rock and measured 24 by 32 ft. with a small belfrey on the north end. It was located where Reed Kohler's residence once stood. (across from the Town Hall) There was a root cellar underneath the building where potatoes, vegetables, etc., paid as the tithing were stored. The back part was used as a granary for grains paid in tithing. At this time much of the tithing was paid in produce.



The old Midway Tithing Office as depicted in a sketch by artist Bill Whitaker

### THE TITHING OFFICE

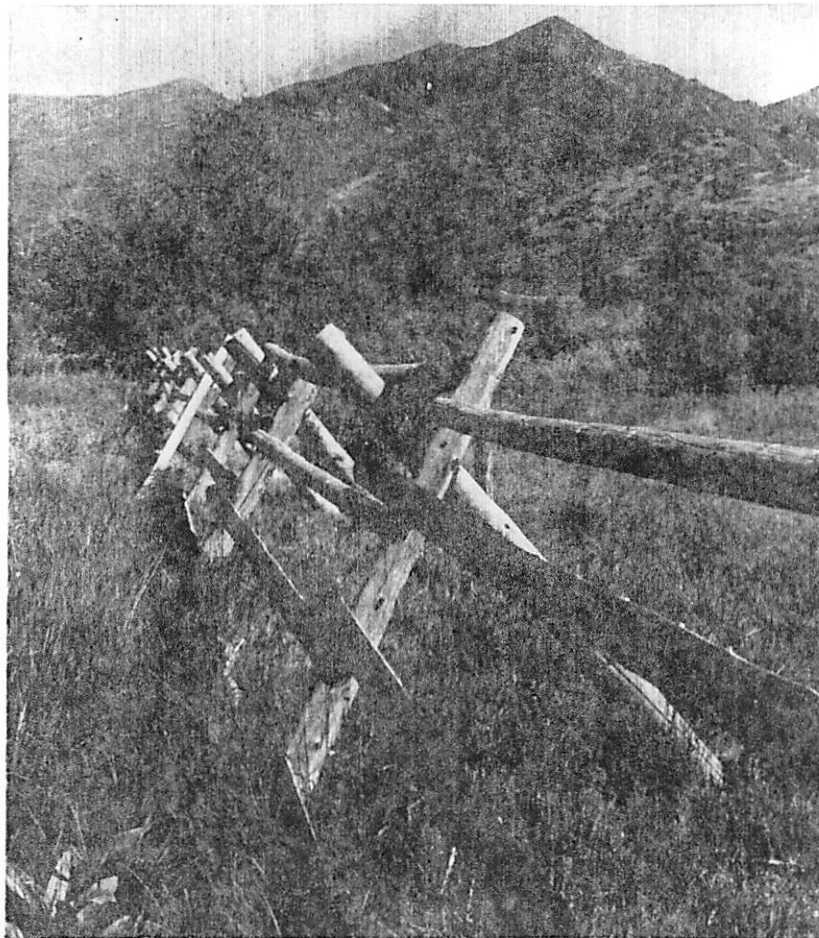
This block is quite significant because it represents an era that is past, for the method of collecting tithing has changed. In those days they had a man set apart as tithing clerk. He received the tithing that people brought in which was mostly produce; a load of hay, a little pig, a bucket of potatoes, a bushel of apples, or another commodity that they produced. The facilities of the tithing office were often taxed, especially if someone brought in a load of hay. It would accomodate potatoes, apples, chickens, egg, fruit, meat, and other things that people would bring for tithing. The office was located on Midway's Main Street south of the Ward Church.

## THE LOWER SETTLEMENT

"The lower Snake Creek settlement was about a mile and a half south of the present city of Midway. Though it was settled first it remained the smaller of the two settlements.

Growth of the two Snake Creek communities continued slowly, but by 1861 there were many new settlers from the Provo and also American Fork areas who had decided to establish homes along the creek. Most of them chose the upper settlement, which grew to be the largest. However, it was in the lower settlement that John H. Van Wagoner chose to build the first flour grist mill. Even though the mill was crude it was still another step forward in making the new valley more liveable.

The time of planting and harvesting in 1861 came and went and the snows of another winter fell on more than 50 families who comprised the Snake Creek settlements. The lower settlement of more than 20 families was designated as a teachers district and in 1864 David Van Wagoner was called as the presiding elder.



## The Johnson Mill

"The Johnson Mill block is perhaps one of the oldest features of the bicentennial quilt. This mill was built in about 1890 by a man named Mark Jeffs, who was an immigrant to Heber. The mill was built in competition to a mill that was already in Heber owned by Abraham Hatch, a stake president. A successive number of owners operated the Midway mill for a period of about ten years, each miller staying only a short time. Each would leave and another miller would come to take his place, live in the home, and operate the mill.

In those days, the purpose of the mill was to grind the farmer's wheat and his feed for his animals. There was very little cash traded in the operation of the mill. It was more of a grist mill than a commercial operation. In a grist mill, the farmer brings his wheat, has it ground into flour, and takes the flour away, leaving a toll for grinding the wheat. In this case a 60 pound bushel of wheat would deliver to the farmer 30 pounds of wheat flour, leaving 15 pounds for the miller.

Nels Johnson bought the mill in 1901 and moved his family there. South of the mill, Mr. Jeffs had also built a creamery. There were two mill ponds there. One furnished power for the mill, the other furnished water power for the creamery. The night that Mr. Johnson bought the mill, the creamery burned down. There was a great fear that the sparks would catch on to the mill which was adjacent to the creamery; however, the mill was saved. Mr. Johnson operated the flour mill for 60 years.

The Johnson mill was the first all roller plan sifter mill in the state of Utah. In order to secure the quality of flour that was to be produced in this mill, Mr. Johnson had his wife bake bread every day from each day's grinding of flour. When people brought flour back saying it wouldn't make good bread, Mr. Johnson would have his wife make a batch of bread with this returned flour and then return the balance of the flour back into the flour system. They had a little machine called a feedermixer, which held just 50 lbs. of flour. It gradually mixed this returned flour back into the flour stream.

Mrs. Johnson made her bread using "Everlasting yeast." She always kept several jars of this yeast on hand. She would soak a piece of gauze in the yeast jar, dry it, then resoak it and redry it several times until it was quite stiff with yeast. When it was dry she would put in an envelope and mail it to people who were seeking a new start on yeast. People coming with flour that they said wouldn't make good bread, would often be told their yeast was bad, and would be given a new start of yeast.

During World War I, the government of the U.S. insisted that farmers who produced their own grain share the unfortunate need of using grain substitutes for making bread; for instance, the miller was required to see that the farmers had a percentage of corn meal, oat flour, potato flour, barley flour, or rye flour, so that they couldn't go home and have all white bread. They had to share in the dark bread program under President Hoover's administration. All mills were required to furnish 50% of their capacity for export. This mill produced one railroad car of flour a month which was shipped to Belgium by way of Texas. It was loaded on the train in Heber, taken to Texas, then transferred to ship to take it overseas. They put the flour in burlap bags that weighed 140 pounds each. These were stacked clear to the ceiling in the mill behind the alleys, eight deep, by way of stairway method, stacking one on top of another, then using one for a step to stack the others until they were eight sacks high.

The signature on the block was made by rubber stamp and represents the signature of Mr. Johnson. The person who made the block, is a daughter of Nels Johnson.

## JOHNSON's MILL

"The major mill in Midway had its beginnings in 1893 when Mark Jeffs built a large four-story grist mill on the east side of Midway near the Provo River. This mill was capable of producing 50 barrels of flour every 24 hours. Water from Provo River powered the mill which was the first roller mill in the County. An additional source of water was the Birkumshaw Springs, about a mile and a half above the mill. Water was stored in a large pond overnight and then used as desired during the day.

Because Mr. Jeffs hired transient millers to operate his mill, the venture failed to succeed and was closed in 1900.

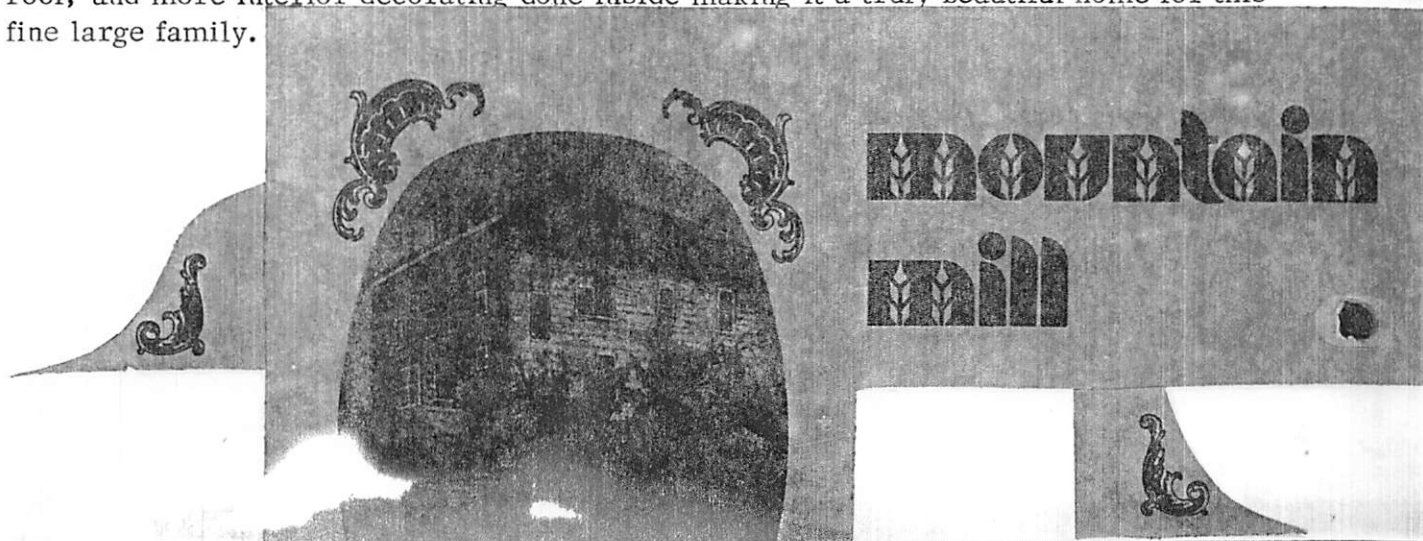
However, Nels Joseph Johnson, a young miller, and native of Wasatch County, purchased the mill in 1903 and started operating it again. Mr. Johnson had been working for Abram Hatch in the Heber Flour Mills, but moved his wife and family to Midway as soon as he purchased the mill. He is reported to have paid Mr. Jeffs \$10,000 for the facility.

Through the years the mill has been successfully managed by Mr. Johnson and his sons. During World War I it ran at full capacity producing flour for the government. Most of this production was shipped to Houston, Texas. Flour was also shipped to San Francisco during the tragic earthquake of 1906.

Improvements made at the mill during the years included cleaning machines for the wheat, chopping facilities and flour bleaching equipment. Hundreds of tons of wheat were also stored in the mill.

For many years the mill was operated under the name of Peoples Roller Mills, and then later the Johnson Milling Company. When Mr. Johnson died in 1950, his son, Ralph J. Johnson took over the management. The mill then became the property of the Lifferth Manufacturing Company. It was under the management of Henry Lifferth. The company made small metal tools.

The Reed Bodine family bought the mill in 1965. Since the mill had been used as a machine shop the Bodine family pioneered at the mill until Mr. Bodine transformed the mill into a home, having seen the great possibilities that the large mill had. Since the untimely death of Mr. Bodine, Lala has continued the dream that they had in the restoration of this landmark by having the outside covered with siding and a new set of shingles on the roof, and more interior decorating done inside making it a truly beautiful home for this fine large family.





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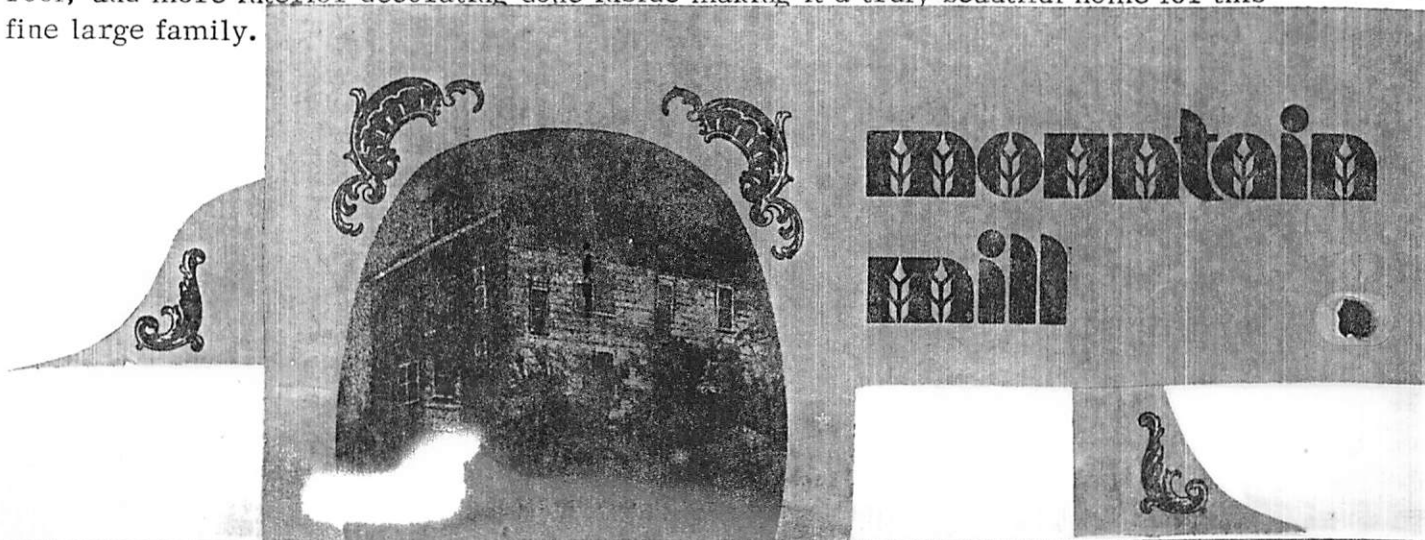
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## MORONI BLOOD

"Many of the first settlers that came into Midway were craftsmen who had been trained in carpentry in Europe or in the East. Many of them had helped erect the Nauvoo Temple and then had moved West with the Church under Brigham Young.

Homes, schools, churches and furniture were built by the hands of these craftsmen. Their skills also extended to tiny pieces of furniture for their little daughters at Christmas time, and to coffins in times of bereavement.

Such craftsmen as Moroni Blood worked on many coffins of native lumber, building them with patience and love. With his work-hardened hands Mr. Blood tacked lace around the edges of the box to lessen the harshness of death.

Moroni Blood was also a sawmill operator. He was able to produce smooth lumber with a planer that he made himself. He also did the Gingerbread woodwork on the outside of the Henry T. Coleman home."

Information obtained from G. J.

BLOCK 27

## MORONI BLOOD's CABINET SHOP

Moroni Blood has a cabinet or woodworking shop at the mouth of the Snake Creek. There was also a water powered saw mill. He made furniture caskets, and household needs such as, chairs, tables, benches, and cubboards. He also made windows and doors.

Information obtained from HBM.

BLOCK 28

## KOHLEER DAIRY

Albert Kohler was the first dairy farmer to haul liquid milk to Salt Lake City, and was instrumental in obtaining "Grade A" milk grading in the valley. He started his farm in 1929 along with his wife Elsie and their six children at the time. Elsie still resides at the farm along with her daughter on the farm also. Eloise and her husband Kay Robbins who have a lovely home on the farm also. A son, Bishop LeRoy Kohler now resides in the family home along with his wife Phyllis and their family. He owns and operates the large dairy farm.

"Fluid milk transportation between Midway and Salt Lake City became popular in the 1930's and creamery operations were soon unprofitable and were forced to close. The milk transportation, however, increased business in the valley considerably, and farmers are now realizing some \$1.5 million a year out of this enterprise.

Information obtained from HBM.

## AMUSEMENT HALL, STAKE WELFARE & CANNING CENTER

"About 1898 George Bonner, one of the early settlers decided on building a building that was needed for amusements. Such buildings were constructed of native rock, it had a stage for dramas, plays and concerts. It was heated by two potbellied stoves. It had a very fine floor for dancing. The walls echoed with laughter, and fine times were had dancing the Quadrille, the polka, and the waltz. Midway had a good orchestra and people came from far and near to enjoy the fun.

Later the Church purchased the building from Mr. Bonner and it was used for amusements under supervision of an Amusement Committee until the direct erection of the Town Hall.

During the depression of the 1930's the leaders of the Church could see the necessity of some kind of a program to help people in times of dire need such as sickness, accident, work stoppage, or strikes, to say nothing of war or crop failures which might make it impossible to obtain food or clothing. After careful consideration and study, the Welfare Program was outlined by the Church. It is carried on in the wards under the direction of the bishoprics and representatives from the Relief Society and quorums.

The Stake Presidency and bishoprics of Wasatch County decided to use the old amusement hall which had been idle for several years and use it for canning and a place of storage for Wasatch Stake.

It was therefore renovated to fit the needs of the people, a new heating system, was installed along with boilers, etc., for canning purposes and places built for storage. It is equipped and modern in every way to carry out the Lord's plan for Church Welfare.

The public is welcomed to use the cannery for the canning of their garden produce, fruit, puddings, jams, juices, beef or deer meat in the fall.

In 1975 an extensive remodeling of the cannery took place, as the cannery in Kamas was closed they brought many of the canning equipment to the Midway cannery such as tables, electric hoist, two precookers, two pressure cookers, and new sinks. Some of the improvements in the cannery were; raising the lower floor so it was all on a level, installing a new automatic sealer, exhaust box and retube the furnace.

This had greatly improved the operation of the cannery and made the canning process much quicker and more pleasant for those who work there and for those who avail themselves of this service.

Those who give assistance and operate the cannery are Mrs. Olen Thompson, George Pitts, Merve Lewis and Bishop LeRoy Kohler as overseer and master mechanic."

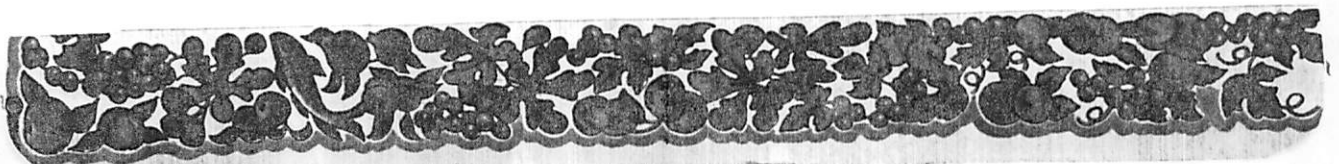
## THE AMUSEMENT HALL

"The Town Hall which is now a cannery, was built in the early days by George Bonner, the same man who built the Bonner Store. He used this amusement hall as a project to commercialize his business. The Amusement Hall, as it was called later, was also called the "Midway Opera House." It had a beautiful rolled curtain with a scene of Venice painted on it. There was a huge roller on the bottom that cranked up and raised the curtain. When a scene was ended, they just released the catch and the roller unrolled and let the curtain fall to the floor. Many dances, as well as operas, and plays by local talent were held there.

The marshall of Midway at the time of the Hall was a man who was quite small perhaps about five feet, two inches tall, weighing around one hundred and twenty five pounds. One night in the process of a dance, a young fellow, perhaps twenty years old, rode in onto the dance floor on a horse. He was somewhat inebriated and not too wise in the ting he did. The marshall asked to please go out of the building with his horse. The young man replied, "You try and make me!" With that, the marshall hit him over the head with a billy club, knocking him unconscious. The horse was let out, and the man dragged by his feet, riding his back on the floor out of the hall.

In this old dance hall, "toe" parties, "bow" parties, and box suppers were held. All the teenagers would go with their parents and have a wonderful time. At intermission would raffle off, auction off, or vote for the various boxes of lunch the women had provided. The men paid the fiddler and the women provided the refreshments. Many a time the young boys ended up eating dinner with grandmothers because they'd voted on the lunch not knowing who had made the box. Sometimes they'd have the women stand behind a sheet with a bare foot sticking out. One could pick out his partner by the identification of her feet! Whoever a fellow should choose, he had supper with. Sometimes during intermission, if the people got together for their lunch lived close to the hall they would go to their homes to eat their lunch, and then back to the hall to finish the dance.

This hall is now operated by the LDS church as a stake cannery. People are able to take their produce in the fall and their meat after hunting, to this cannery, and by preparing the food, have it processed through the mechanical operations of the cannery which is quite modern. There are sealers, steam cookers, and all the other apparatus necessary to provide an efficient cannery operation.



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## MIDWAY SECOND WARD

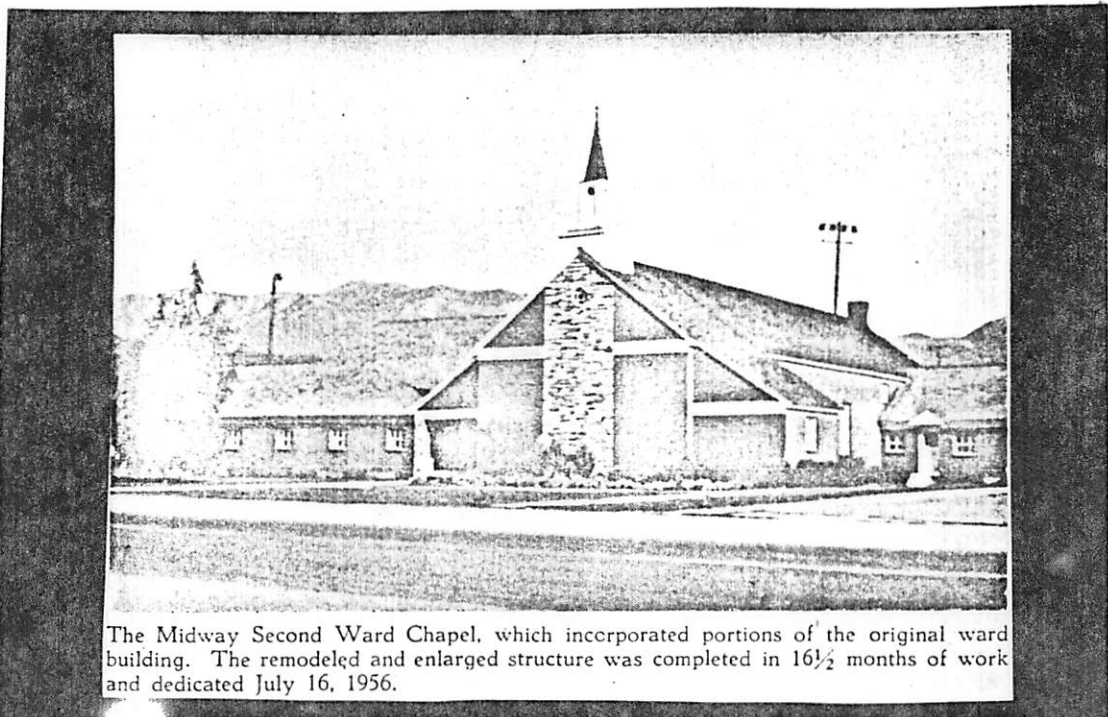
"The Midway Second Ward, Wasatch County, consists of the saints residing in the west part of Midway being separated from the Midway First Ward by the street running north and southeast of the public square.

February 8, 1903 at a special evening session presided over by Apostle Mathias F. Cowley, Jacob Probst was chosen Bishop with John A. Fortie, 1st Counselor, George Huntington 2nd. Counselor, and John M. Huber, Ward Clerk.

In 1910 Midway 2nd Ward meetinghouse was partly rebuilt and a two story addition erected and attached to the old meeting house on the rear containing three rooms. The construction of this addition cost the ward \$2500. In 1914-1915 the main building was remodeled at a cost of about \$8,000.

After 32 years of efficient service Jacob Probst was released as bishop. The following men have held the position of Bishop in the second ward: Nephi Probst, 1935; Alma Huber, 1937; Joseph L. Jorgensen, 1945; Elmer Kohler, 1952; Wayne Probst, 1964; Norman Kohler, 1973.

March 21, 1955 a new chapel was begun by tearing down the back part of the old one and remodeling the front part which was built in 1885, which was built in 1885 and became the recreation hall of the new chapel, adding many more rooms and improvements. After 16 1/2 months of diligent work - serving dinners, bazaars, programs, etc. - the building was dedicated July 16, 1956 at a total cost of \$112,500.00. The completion of this great project in so short a time was due to the untiring efforts of Bishop Kohler who worked on the project every day. The unity and support of the people was very commendable and now a beautiful chapel stands as a monument to their efforts."



The Midway Second Ward Chapel, which incorporated portions of the original ward building. The remodeled and enlarged structure was completed in 16½ months of work and dedicated July 16, 1956.



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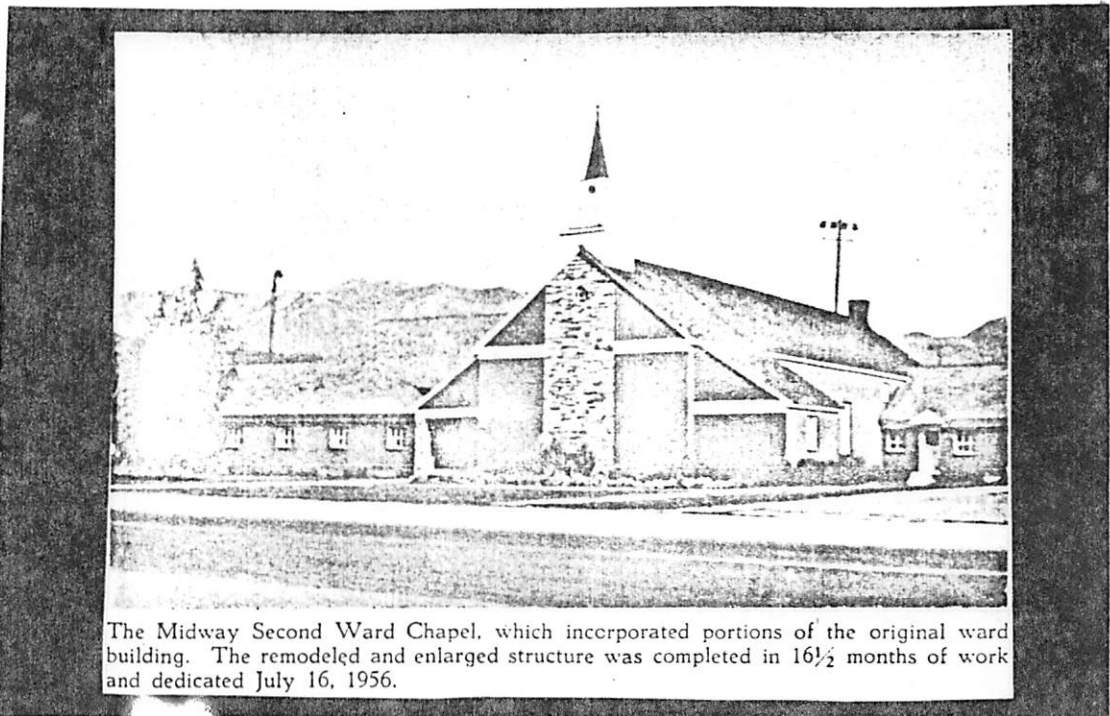
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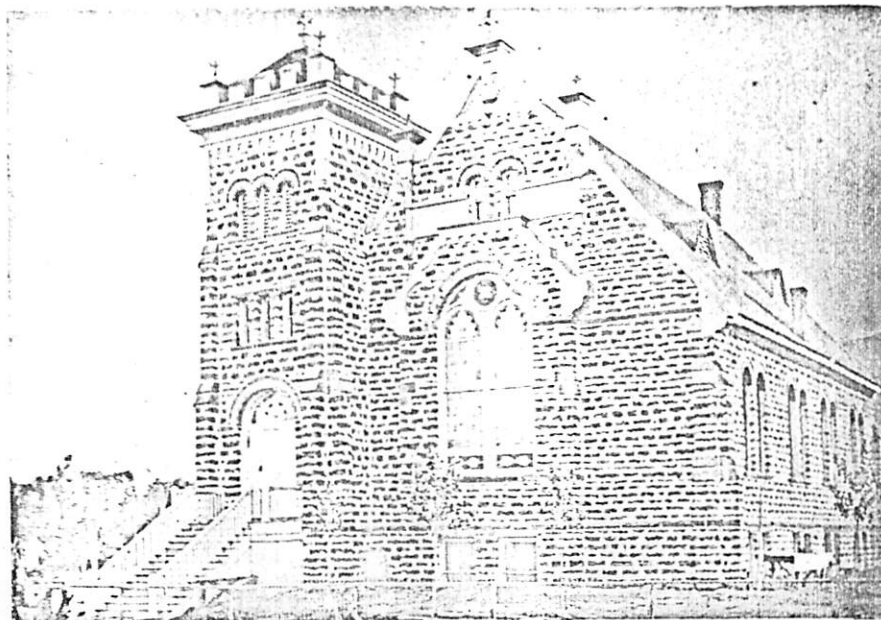
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The original Midway First Ward Chapel dedicated in 1914. When the new chapel was built years later this portion was incorporated in the new building.

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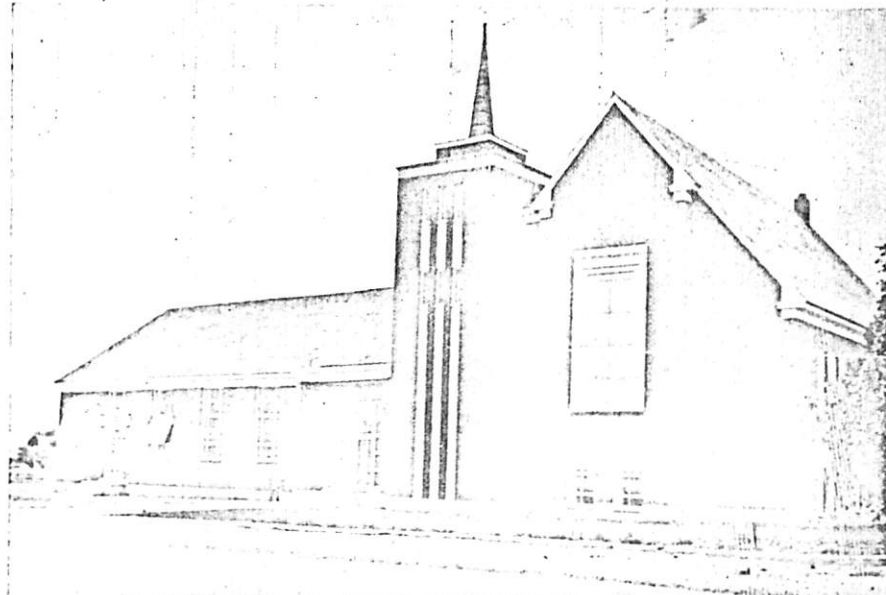
"Midway First Ward, Wasatch County, Utah consists of these residing in the east part of Midway, the street running north and south of the public square being the boundary line between the two wards.

At a meeting held in the ward meeting house February 8, 1903 after the quarterly conference at Heber, presided over by Apostle Mathias F. Cowley, Joseph W. Francom was chosen Bishop of the Midway First Ward with Attewall Wootton, First Counselor, John U. Buhler, Second Counselor, and Charles E. Bronson, Ward Clerk.

As the meeting house was located in the Second Ward when the wards were divided, the First Ward held their meetings in the school house. Therefore, it was necessary for a chapel to be erected in their ward. The old meeting house in the Second Ward was valued at \$2,000 and is still, after being remodeled, being used by them. They assisted the First Ward in erecting the new chapel. It was to be built of native limestone. The building is 38 by 62 ft. by 20 ft. high from the bottom of the basement to the square. A beautiful tower 13 by 13 1/2 ft. built on the front is 51 ft. high. It was completed about 1908 and dedicated on February 8, 1914, by President Joseph R. Murdock.

The following men have been Bishops of the Midway First Ward: Henry T. Coleman, 1906; John Van Wagoner, 1913; Clark Bronson 1926; George W. Johnson, 1938; Albert Kohler 1944; Irvin Bowden 1947; Burton Bronson Van Wagoner, 1955; Grant Remund, 1966; Roy Kohler, 1972.

In May 1959, a remodeling job was begun on the old chapel, the old building to be used for a recreational hall and classrooms. A new auditorium, Relief Society room, offices, foyer, and other rooms are on the side of the old chapel. The entire structure is faced with red brick. The old tower was removed and a new steeple built according to modern architecture. The cost of the building was \$182,000."



The new Midway First Ward Chapel. Construction began May 1, 1959. The entire building was built into this new structure.

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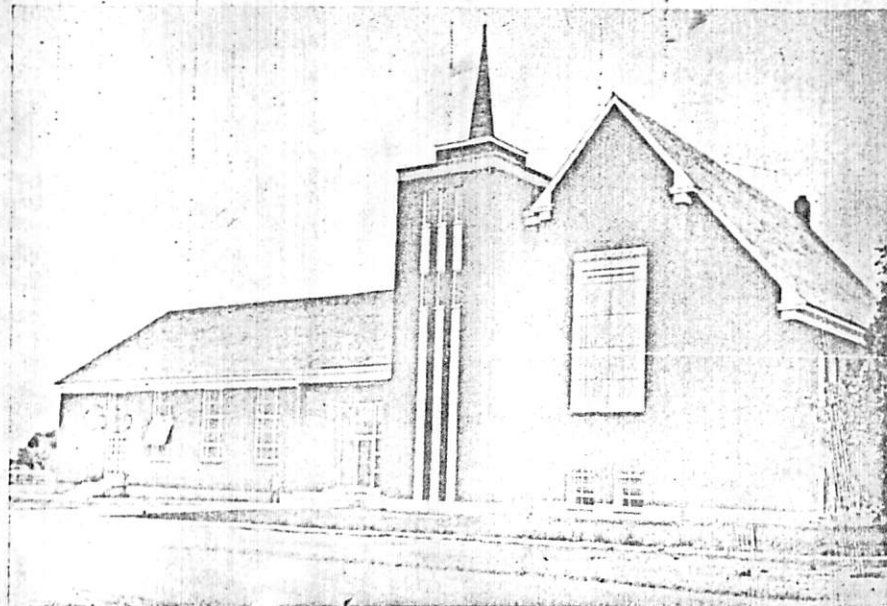
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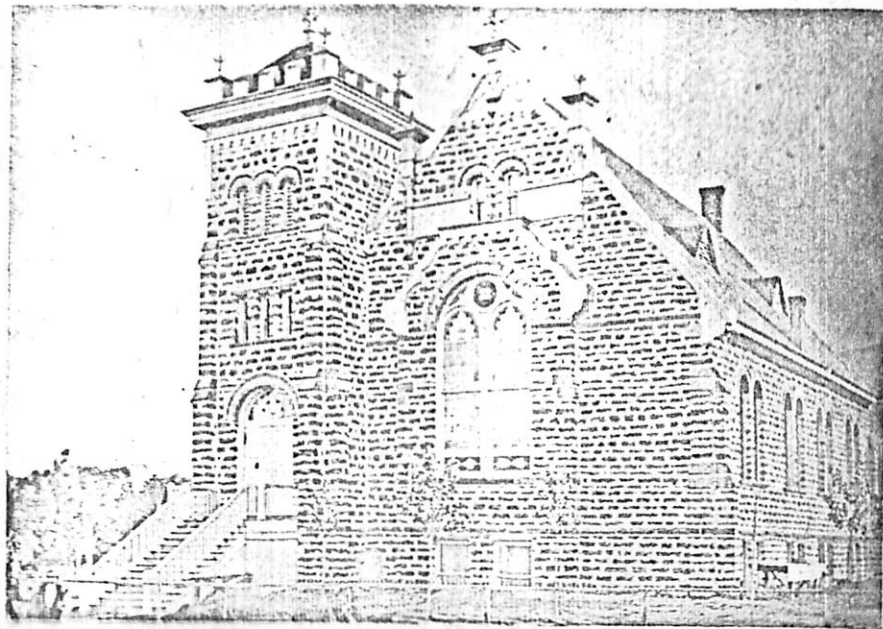
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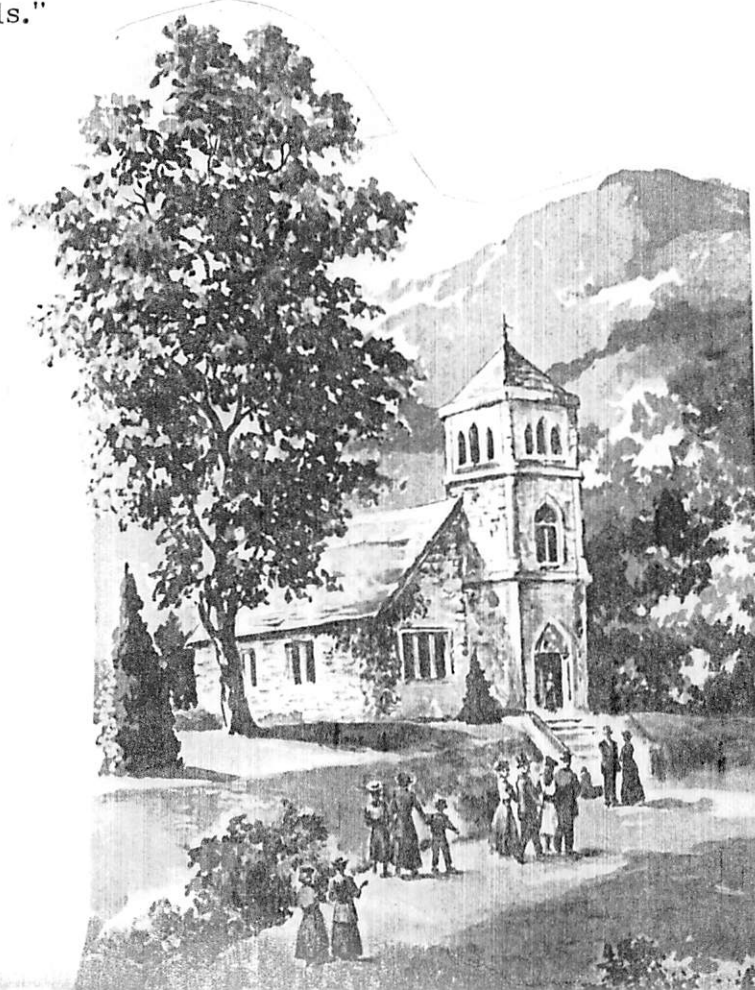
## FIRST MEETING HOUSE

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The southeast corner was dedicated by Bishop David Van Wagoner. The southwest corner by First Counselor John Watkins, the northeast corner by Second Counselor Alva J. Alexander, the northwest corner by John Huber. The stones had been prepared by Johannes Sonderegger. They were all high priests. At this time there were no other ward organizations of the priesthood. The seventies were organized as a quorum shortly after the Elders were organized in a stake capacity.

During 1885-1886 the first Ward organ was purchased at \$125. The meeting house had been completed to such an extent that the first meeting was held May 23, 1886; However, it was not dedicated until 1895. There was still an indebtedness of \$40, and \$50 more was needed for skylight over the door. The building measured 60 ft. by 30 ft. and 16 ft to the ceiling. It was built of native orck with a belfry at the south end which contained a big church bell, its beautiful clear tones ringing out to call the people to worship and tolling on sad occasions for funerals."



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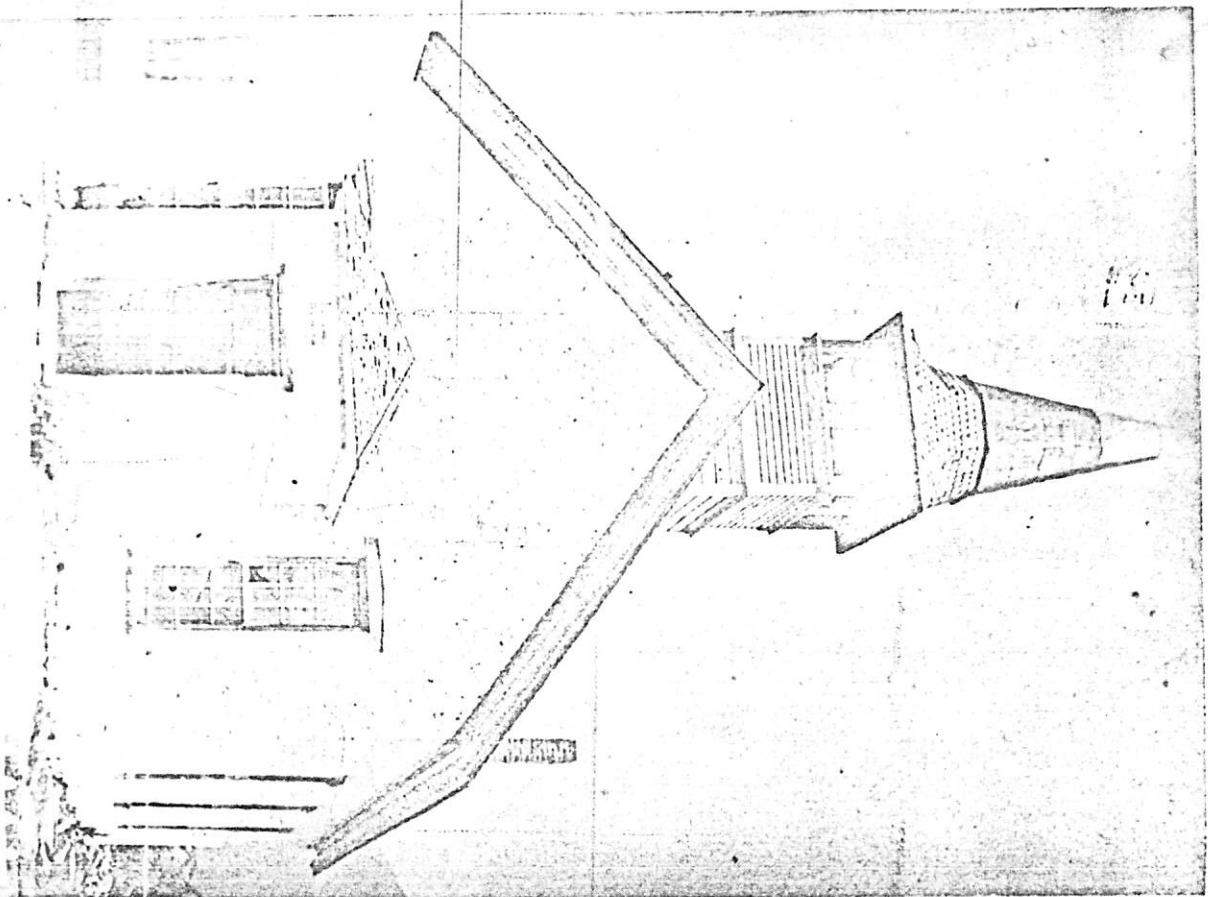
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The first meeting house in Midway, dedicated in 1895. It was built of native rock and measured 30 by 60 feet.

Information obtained from HBM.

### SIMON EPPERSON LIVERY STABLE

" Only one livery stable flourished in Midway in the days before automobiles. The stable was established about 1909 by Simon Epperson. In earlier years, Mr. Eppersons father, Sidney H. Epperson, had kept a feed stable where travelers could stop for feed and water for their teams.

The Epperson stable was located north of the old Berkumshaw Building on a spot where William Gibson later operated a blacksmith shop. Mr. Epperson invested much in his livery stable and boasted fine quality horses and the best in harnesses, buggies and cutters.

Many of Midway's young couples courted in Epperson buggies and enjoyed Sunday rides in outfits from the stables. Workers at the mines also made good use of the services. When mining activity dwindled so did the livery stable business, and it ended when automobiles gained in popularity.

Simon Shelby Epperson was born in Midway Jan. 12, 1871, the seventh son of Sidney Hiram and Mary Jan Robey Epperson. He married Lydia Melissa Smith April 4, 1890, at the Smith Grove in Midway. The marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple. He died December 29, 1950 in Salt Lake City and is buried in Midway.

Lydia Melissa Smith Epperson was born in Midway August 2, 1873, the eighth child of Benjamin Mark and Elizabeth Agness Wood Smith. She died May 4, 1956 in Salt Lake City and is buried in Midway.

Simon graduated from the old Brigham Young Academy in Provo in 1892 and taught school in Midway for seven years. He also served as secretary of the Midway Town Corporation and secretary of the Midway Waterworks and Irrigation Company. He was part owner of the Midway Drug Company and owned and operated the Midway Livery Stable. He was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints and served as ward clerk and chorister of the Midway First Ward under Bishop Coleman for seven years. He worked also in the Sunday School and YMMIA.

From 1906 to 1919 Mr. Epperson served as branch manager in the Studebaker Corporation in Heber. He was Sunday School chorister of the Second Ward, a member of the Sunday School Union Board and second counselor to David A. Broadbent when religion classes were first organized in the stakes.

Their children are: Jennie Agness, Vida Lydia, Simon Doyle, Edith Rosedale, Juanita, Erma Lavella, Frank Ross, Lillian Estelle, and Victor Robey.

Sidney Epperson the presiding elder, once had a large crowd gather at his home as they waited for a newspaper to arrive reporting the outcome of the Sullivan-Kilrain championship boxing match that had been fought a month earlier on the Mississippi.

## GALLI SAUERKRAUT

It's been said, that the Joseph & Annie Galli sauer-kraut was the best ever. Sauer kraut is made from finely sliced cabbage, fermented in a brine made of it's own juice.

In the late autumn, after all our crops had been gathered in, and all those big loads of cabbage was sorted into separate piles in the cellar, Mother would say "you children all hurry home from school tonight, we are going to make the sauer-kraut." After supper was over and the dishes cleared away, we all carried cabbage into our big kitchen piled up to the window, leaving room only for a chair where each one was to work. Father's chair was placed next to the back door with the tub and cabbage slicer. Next was Mother's chair with a stool and a big board over the top where she could cut the cabbage into quarters and take out the core, and hand it over to Father who would push through the slicer, after we children had cut off all the bad leaves and the cabbage was nice and clean. Mother always had made sure the slicer was adjusted right to make the perfect sized cabbage slices.

As each tub was filled, Father and Mother carried it down into the cellar where they had a forty gallon wooden barrel prepared for the sauer kraut process. Father would put into the barrel just so much of the sliced cabbage, Mother sprinkled so many hands full of salt evenly over the top, then Father used the tamper we had made just special for that purpose, and pounded and pounded as they put in each layer of cabbage and salt.

After hours of working, and listening to Father's & Mother's good stories, and each of us telling of our school experiences, the time finally came when they came back from the cellar and announced this will be the last tub full we will need for this barrel.

When they took the last tub full to the cellar, Mother also took a big white cloth she had all prepared down with her. For the last of the cabbage and salt had been pounded and pounded down, Mother covered the cloth over the top of the cabbage leaving a few inches to hang over the top of the barrel, then they placed the wooden barrel lid over the cloth, then place three large sand stone rocks on the top, to keep the lid tight pressure on the contents in the barrel. Then place the remaining part of the cloth up around the lid, making sure to leave a few inches empty at the top of the barrel so that when the fermentation took place there was room for that at the top of the barrel. l

When they returned to the kitchen we children had the room all cleaned up. The boys carried all the waste leaves and out to where the cows could eat at it while we girls scrubbed the floor. We went to bed happy to have the sauer kraut on its way.

After a few days, Mother kept close watch of the juice that came to the top of the barrel lid into the cloth. She tasted it each time. When she decided it was getting ripe Father lifted the rocks from the top, took off the wooden lid and the cloth and tasted it. They went through this process at least ten times or more, until they decided the sauer kraut was ripe all ready to use.

Father added containers full of the sauer kraut to his load of vegetables, eggs and butter, then we peddled to his customers over in Park City. They were always happy to get good sauer kraut. Mother and Father always saw to it that all their special friends had a treat of it.



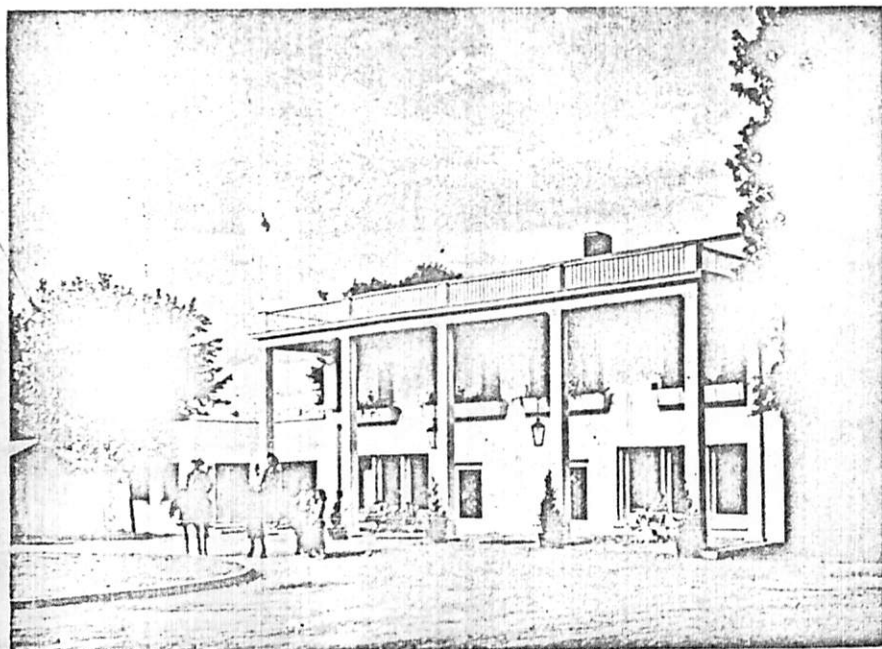
## THE HOMESTEAD

" Schnitters Hot Pots became the Homestead early in 1952 when Ferrin W. Whitaker, his brothers Berlin and Scott and a son-in-law, Del Wallengren, moved to Midway from Southern California to take ownership from the Schnitter family. A complete architectural face lifting gave a new look to the main building. The east wall of the dining room was opened with windows looking out over the valley and kitchen facilities expanded when a new pantry was added. The lobby and fountain were redecorated and a wing furnished to house rest rooms and a check in room for swimmers.

The old hotel was renovated as was a three room milk house in the south, providing additional space for overnight guests. Since then the Ranch House and Farm House have been constructed bringing the total number of hotel rooms to 20.=

Swimming, horseback riding, fishing in a stocked pond, shuffleboard and other lawn games were made available to visitors. Through continual enlarging, planting, and landscaping, this new resort becomes a drawing card for the county. Chicken and steak dinners are still being served and the luster of this vacation spot remains undimmed through 93 years of resort business in Wasatch County. It is one of Utah's best resorts.

The Homestead was purchased from the Whitaker's in 1972 by Allan Madsen. Since that time Mr. Allan has built 2 new Hotels - one called the Barn which has 2 rooms and one called the Valley View which has 8 rooms. A new wing was built on the main building and 2 dining rooms added downstairs and a convention room upstairs. Turning this resort into a ultra modern resort with an old fashioned homey atmosphere with the beauty of the past still preserved has come true.



The nationally popular Homestead Resort at Midway

Information obtained from HBM

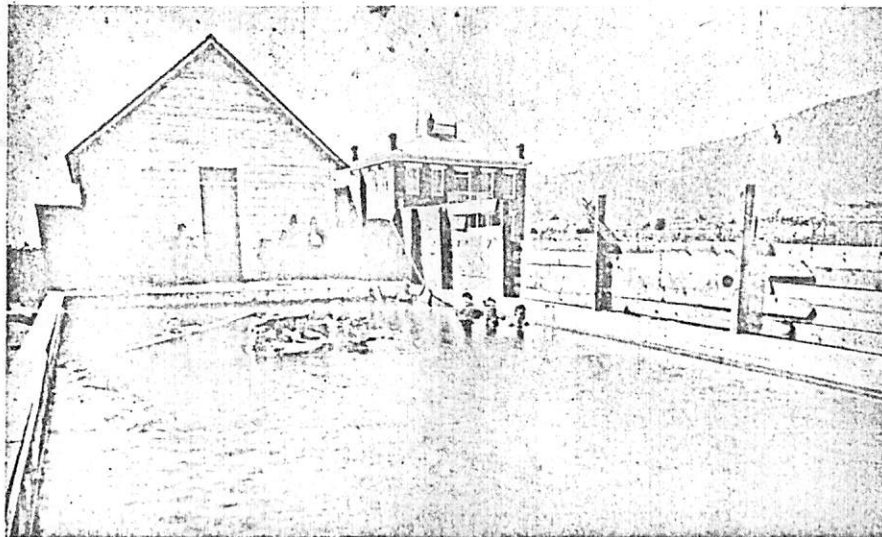
### THE SCHNEITTER RESORT

" In 1878 Simon Schneitter bought from Samuel Thompson, and with a few chickens and cows started to farm his ground. When Park City was developed into a mining town and Provo was settled, people heard of the hot pots and would go to Schneitter's in their wagons to see these unusual craters. This started Mr. Schneitter thinking about a resort. In 1886 a two story brick hotel and a swimming pool was started. The hole was drilled at the base of the large hot pot and the water was piped to the pool. "Schneitter's Hot Pots" were known throughout the entire mountain area. The most discrimination people praised the wonderful food prepared under the direction of Mrs. Fannie Schneitter. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schneitter were noted for their warmth and hospitality. Thousands of people thronged to the resort throughout the year.

The resort was then either leased or rented to Thomas Monks before Jacob Schneitter bought it from his father. Frank Monks writes of his father's operation:

"Father ran the resort for some seven years and as I remember the conversation in those early days, they drew crowds then creating horse races. Some bathing helped to create interest too. They had the two enclosed swimming pools constructed entirely of lumber. One was smaller than the other and furnished the participating Swimmers a rather hot bath, as it was much warmer than the larger one. The two story brick building which seemed to be the outstanding building in those days was equipped to sleep the guests. There were twelve rooms. In connection with this they had a lumber dining room of fair size, and a kitchen. Monk's fried chicken was very well know in Salt Lake City and other nearby towns. The horse and buggy was the means of transportation so their trade extended to a rather small area. They served regular meals and home-made ice cream and cake. When they needed music, it was furnished by a brass band led by Mr. Robert Krebs, who lived nearby."

Following Tom Monk's operation the resort was taken over by W.W. Ritter and Peter Kurellor, known as "Dutch Pete" who ran it for three or four years before the Schneitter family took over again.

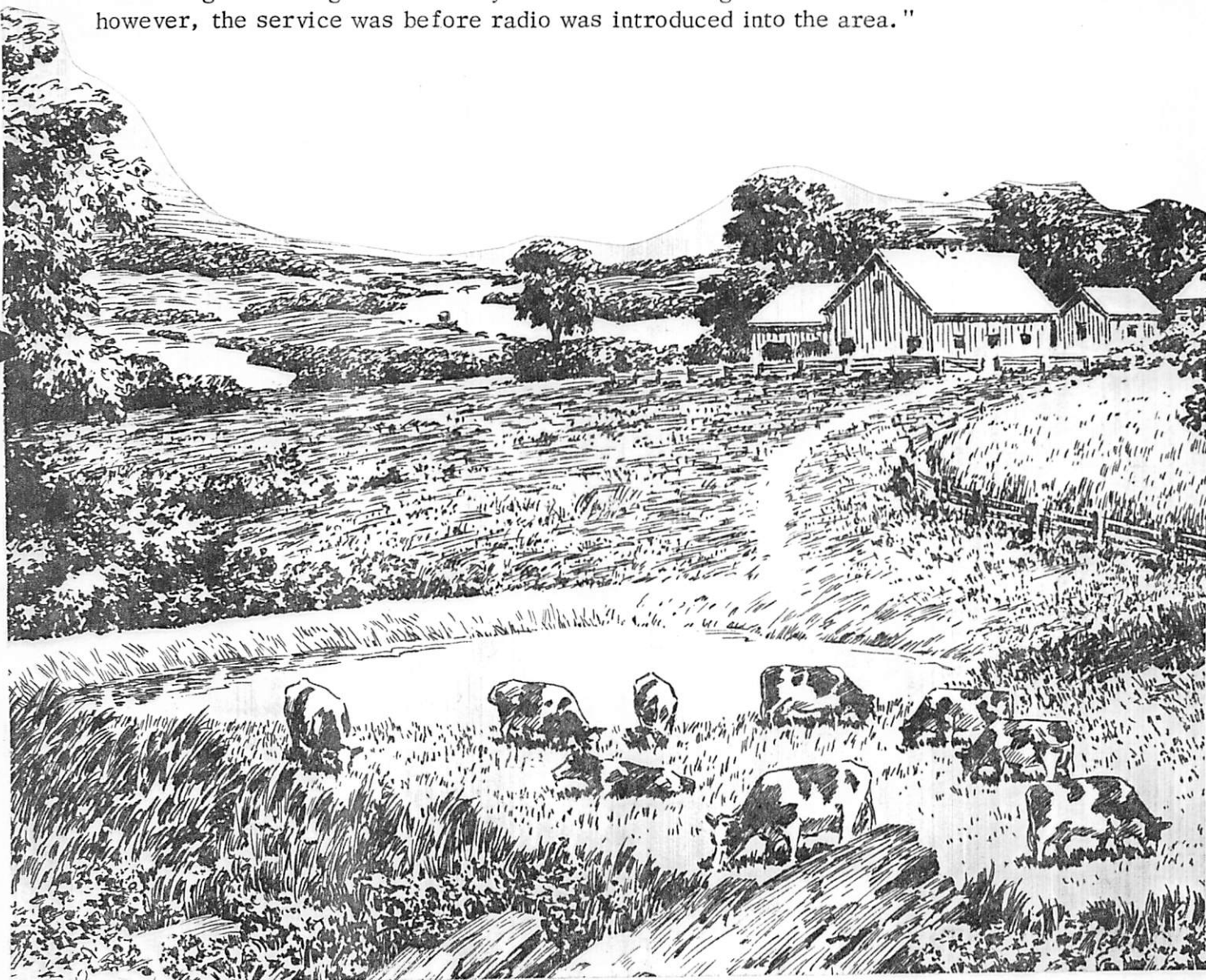


A very early picture of Schneitter's Hot Pots resort, now The Homestead, showing the swimming pool and bathhouse.

## The Remund Homestead

"This block represents one of the original homesteaders in the area, Frederick Remund Sr., who was a convert to the L. D. S. church in Switzerland and later filled a mission back to his native country. He homesteaded about 160 acres which has since been divided.

His funeral was held in Midway after his body had been brought from another area where he had died. Since he had been absent from Idway for awhile, the casket was opened and the people were invited to pass, row by row, by the casket to view the remains. While these people were marching around and back to their seats, the organist played music. Several people, including the organist, reported hearing a choir sing. The organ was playing "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" and all the verses of this same song were sung. It was very much like listening to a radio broadcast in the distance; however, the service was before radio was introduced into the area."

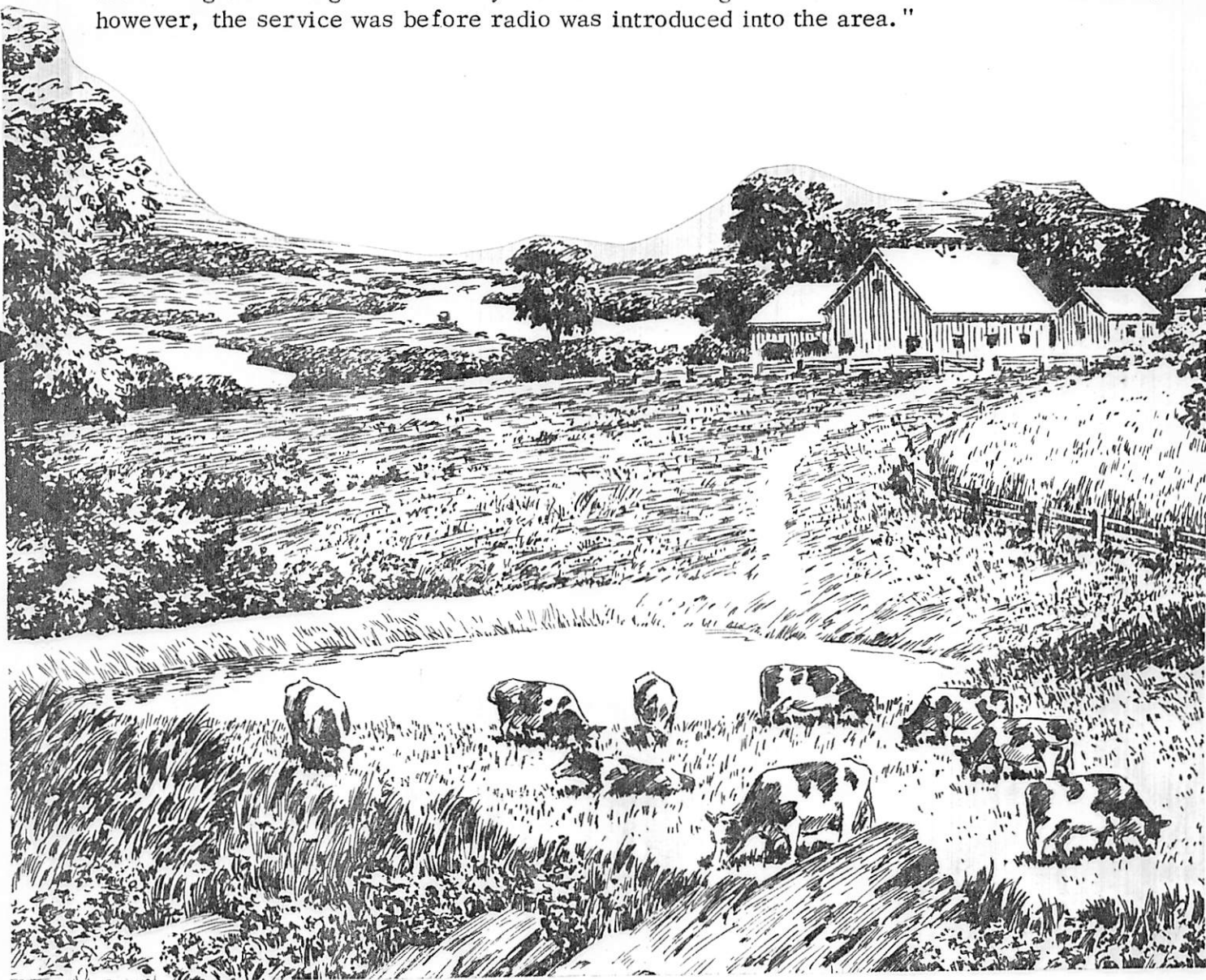




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About 1882 Frederick Remund Sr. moved to Midway where there were a number of other people from Switzerland living. He bought a house across the street from where Mr. Boss, the mother of Conrad Boss is now living. He lived here about fifteen years before building a house on his homestead, the house still stands on the hill near the Hot Pots. The children carried the rock and did other jobs to help build this house. He filed on 80 acres out the the "Dutch Field," his deed to that parcel of land was signed by President Benjamin Harrison in 1890. The field had to be cleared of the sage brush from the ground and dig ditches for many miles to water the land, he worked with J. W. Wilson on this project.

Frederick Remund Sr. and Anne Elizabeth Ott had 10 children, six boys and 4 four girls, all born in Midway except the three older ones. In 1892 when Annie was only six months old Frederick was called on amission to Switzerland, he never hesitated but left his family in the care of the Lord and went to fill an honorable Mission for the Church. He was gone from Oct. 1892 till March 1895. On his return home from his mission he was chosen leader of the Swiss Band, this position he held for many years. Fredrick Remund Jr. was the oldest son so assumed the responsibility of taking care of the farm and the family while his father was on his mission. Later Fredrick Jr. also filled a misson to Switzerland.

Fredrick Sr. sold his farm in his later years to his son Fredrick Jr. Fred Jr. was an excellent farmer. His certified seed potatoes were always in demand.

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He was active in the church, serving as superintendent of the Sunday School and in other capacities. He was a loyal supporter of the Town of Midway and the schools. He managed basketball teams for the town of Midway and church. He helped in completing the road on the Memorial Hill.

His wife Alice Sulser Remund died in childbirth. She was a beautiful and promising young lady. He married Anna Elfreda Jasperson five years later. She was President of the Midway First Ward Primary for ten years, and had a beautiful contralto voice.

Their son Grant and his son Roy operate the dairy farm at the present time. The have a fine herd of Registered Holstein cows.

Grant's son Harold is now serving a mission for the Church of Latter Day Saints in the Swiss Mission, as his grandfather and great grandfather has done previously.

This information was taken partly from the record of the Remund Personal Record and from information on HBM

Information obtained from HBM

### THE FIRST BABY

"The first birth among the settlers in the valley occurred in November. The child, a daughter of William Davidson and his wife, Ellen was named Timpanogos, the Indian name for the valley and the prominent mountain that lay at the west of the valley.

For those who remained, the first winter in the valley was a long and dreary one. The snow fell early and was several feet deep. For nearly four months they were without communication from the rest of the world."



Information obtained from HBM.

### BUEHLER BATH HOUSE

Gottfried Buehler built the first public bath house in Midway. This bath house was centrally located and used by the townspeople as a place for baptisms. These baptisms were carried on for new members and also for those whose records were lost or destroyed. Sometimes this work was carried throughout the entire day. The water in this bath was very hot and was remembered by those using it for a long time. Fred Buhler, Jr., son of the original owner constructed the present bath house and built it further down the hill toward the road. The building was larger and the water that feeds this pools was and had been cooled until now it is quite comfortable. The water was piped from the old bath house down to the new.

Mr. Buhler also operated a store in his home, and then built a store near his house. Later he built a new store by the German Hall. This store was a very well-stocked establishment. Mr Buhler's daughter, Adeline (Ardell), helped her father. Finally the store closed and was converted into a creamery.

Gottfried Buhler was one of the first in the area to build a cheese factory in the community. He studied the art of cheese making in Cache Valley in Utah and purchased equipment which he placed in a new factory building near his home. His results were profitable, and his son built a larger factory across the street.



*Jesus is baptized by John*

The Heritage Quilt has been hanging up in the Quilt Room of the Relief Society Building in Salt Lake City and has received much favorable comment. It will be hanging in the Meeting House once more for the summer. A picture of the quilt was in the May Ensign.

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This book of "The Heritage Trqil" Bicentennial Quilt made by the Midway First Ward belongs to Renae VanWagoner and Iola Johnson and is to stay with the quilt at all times unless the quilt should be sold or given to another individual. In this event the book is to remain the property of Renae and Iola.

Iola Johnson  
Renae Van Wagoner

1976